

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-21 (canceled)

22. (currently amended) An automated telephony interface for use with a source telecommunications device configured to initiate a telecommunications session, comprising:

a scanner; and

a session initiator, coupled to said scanner, that parses information read by said scanner, extracts a telephone number from said information, and determines whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based on a first orientation in which said information is read in a first direction along a card and a second orientation in which said information is read in a second direction along said card ~~an orientation of said information read by said scanner~~, said session initiator further transmitting a signal containing said telephone number to said source telecommunications device ~~thereby initiating a telecommunications session~~.

Claims 23-25 (canceled)

26. (currently amended) The interface as recited in Claim 22 wherein said session initiator further ~~determines whether to use said telephone number~~ to initiate faxing or phoning based ~~further~~ on a status of said source telecommunications device.

27. (previously presented) The interface as recited in Claim 26 wherein said status of said source telecommunications device is a ready status of a source telephone.

28. (previously presented) The interface as recited in Claim 26 wherein said status of said source telecommunications device is a ready status of a source facsimile device.

29. (currently amended) A method of initiating a telecommunications session at a source telecommunications device, comprising:

scanning information on a card with a scanner in a direction selected from first and second directions along said card and an orientation is selected from first and second orientations corresponding to said first and second directions, respectively;

parsing said information with a session initiator coupled to said scanner;

extracting a telephone number from said information with said session initiator;

determining with said session initiator whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based on an said orientation of said information read by said scanner; and

initiating a telecommunications session by transmitting a signal containing said telephone number from said session initiator to said source telecommunications device.

Claims 30-35 (canceled)

36. (currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 29 wherein said initiating determining is further based on a status of said source telecommunications device.

37. (previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 36 wherein said status of said source telecommunications device is a ready status of a source telephone.

38. (previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 36 wherein said status of said source telecommunications device is a ready status of a source facsimile device.

39. (currently amended) A method of initiating a telecommunications session at a source telecommunications device, comprising:

reading information having an orientation on a card in a direction selected from first and second directions along said card and said orientation is selected from first and second orientations corresponding to said first and second directions, respectively;

parsing said information;

extracting a telephone number from said information;
determining whether to use said telephone number to initiate faxing or phoning based on said orientation of said information read; and
transmitting a signal containing said telephone number to said source telecommunications device thereby initiating a telecommunications session.

40. (currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 39 wherein said initiating determining is further based on a status of said source telecommunications device.

41. (currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 40 wherein said status of said source telecommunications device is selected from the group consisting of:

a ready status of a source telephone, and
a ready status of a source facsimile device.